

that foreign adversaries (as defined in section 8(c)(2) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607(c)(2))) do not benefit from United States efforts to increase such investment.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON INCREASING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN SEMICONDUCTOR-RELATED MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION.

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Executive Director of SelectUSA, in coordination with the Federal Interagency Investment Working Group established by Executive Order 13577 (76 Fed. Reg. 35,715; relating to establishment of the SelectUSA Initiative), shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) a review of the comments SelectUSA received from State-level economic development organizations under section 4;

(2) a description of activities SelectUSA is engaged in to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production; and

(3) an assessment of strategies SelectUSA may implement to achieve an increase in such investment and to help secure the United States supply chain for semiconductors, including by—

(A) working with other relevant Federal agencies; and

(B) working with State-level economic development organizations and implementing any strategies or recommendations SelectUSA received from those organizations.

SEC. 6. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act. The Executive Director of SelectUSA shall carry out this Act using amounts otherwise available to the Executive Director for such purposes.

The bill (S. 3309), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

VETERANS EXPEDITED TSA SCREENING SAFE TRAVEL ACT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 2280, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2280) to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2280) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2280

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Expedited TSA Screening Safe Travel Act” or the “VETS Safe Travel Act”.

SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44927 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A veteran described in paragraph (2) is eligible for security screening under the PreCheck Program under section 44919 at no cost to the veteran if the veteran is able to meet the background check and other security requirements for participation in the program.

“(2) VETERANS DESCRIBED.—A veteran described in this paragraph is a veteran who—

“(A) is enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs established and operated under section 1705 of title 38, United States Code;

“(B) has—

“(i) lost, or lost use of, a limb;

“(ii) become paralyzed or partially paralyzed; or

“(iii) incurred permanent blindness; and

“(C) as a result of a loss, paralyzation or partial paralyzation, or blindness described in subparagraph (B), requires the use of a wheelchair, prosthetic limb, or other assistive device to aid with mobility.”.

(b) COORDINATION ON IMPLEMENTATION.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly—

(1) develop and implement a process under which a veteran described in paragraph (2) of subsection (g) of section 44927 of title 49, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), can receive the benefits under such subsection by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) provide to Congress a briefing on the status of implementing the process required by paragraph (1) by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. OUTREACH FOR DISABLED VETERANS ON AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS.

(a) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall develop and implement a process under which the Secretary provides to disabled veterans effective outreach about Transportation Security Administration programs designed to improve the screening process for passengers with disabilities.

(b) FURTHER ENHANCEMENTS TO EASE AIR TRAVEL FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS AND OTHER DISABLED VETERANS.—Notwithstanding subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”), or any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, shall—

(1) engage appropriate veterans service organizations and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, to assess the awareness of veterans of relevant Transportation Security Administration programs; and

(2) examine the need and feasibility of other measures to improve travel security procedures for disabled veterans.

(c) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of

this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Administrator of Transportation Security Administration shall jointly provide to Congress a briefing on the status of the implementation of subsections (a) and (b).

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2022

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for a pro forma session only with no business being conducted on the following date and time: Friday, June 17, at 8:30 a.m. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, June 17, it next convene at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business for debate only and with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each until 5:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of the patient colleague Senator PORTMAN of Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Ohio.

HONORING OUR PACT ACT OF 2021

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Delaware via Columbus, OH, for his comments, and I want to talk for a moment about what we did today in the U.S. Senate. We passed legislation very important to our veterans that has to do with expanding VA veterans’ healthcare coverage but specifically addresses the problem of our veterans who have been exposed to burn pits—toxic burn pits that have resulted in terrible illnesses, including cancer and others.

The legislation we passed is named the Heath Robinson PACT Act. And people may wonder: Well, who is Heath Robinson? Why is it named after him?

Heath Robinson was from Pickerington, OH, which is a small community outside of Columbus, OH. He enlisted in the Ohio National Guard. He became a sergeant first class. He did tours of duty in Kosovo and also in Iraq. He was with the 285th Area Support Medical Company and was a two-time Ohio Army National Guard NCO of the Year in 2012 and 2013—so a very distinguished career in the military.

In 2020, he died of cancer. And when you talk to the medical professionals, they say that his exposure to burn pits

is what resulted in his cancer developing and in the end of his life way too soon.

So his widow Danielle, who some people may remember was at the State of the Union up in the Gallery, and his mom Kathi and his daughter Brielle have been tireless advocates for addressing this burn pit issue, trying to stop the burn pits from being used but, of course, addressing the consequence of these burn pits. And they have channeled their grief in a constructive way, which is to encourage Congress to pass this legislation that we passed today. So many other veterans who have been exposed to burn pits will now get their healthcare because of their work and because of the tribute that is being paid to their father and husband and son, Heath Robinson.

So that is who Heath Robinson is, and that is why it was important to name that legislation today after him.

OTTO WARMBIER COUNTERING NORTH KOREAN CENSORSHIP AND SURVEILLANCE ACT OF 2021

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I am also rising today to ask unanimous consent from my colleagues to pass other legislation, S. 2129, a bipartisan bill that I have coauthored with my colleague from Ohio, Senator SHERROD BROWN. It honors a young man named Otto Warmbier, and it counters North Korea's censorship and surveillance state.

Otto Warmbier was a native of my hometown in Cincinnati, OH, and his wonderful family are dear friends. He was a young man of great spirit, great intellect, and great promise. He was a student, a star at the University of Virginia.

In 2015, he went to North Korea with a tour group. It was a cultural visit with people from the United States, from Europe, looking to see what North Korea was like. They were there for a very brief period of time, but at the end of that brief visit, as he was waiting in line at the airport to leave with fellow members of the tour, North Korean security officials grabbed him and pulled him out of line.

He was detained, and then eventually he was sentenced for 15 years on trumped-up charges relating to whether or not he tried to take down a poster that was a political poster—15 years. Otto Warmbier, again, a young man of great promise, was unjustly convicted and imprisoned. And during a 17-month period of imprisonment, captivity, he was badly mistreated by the North Koreans, to the point that when he was returned to the United States in 2017, he came back in a comatose state from which he never recovered.

Otto Warmbier died almost exactly 5 years ago today, June 19, 2017. He was 22 years old, with his whole life ahead of him. So 5 years ago, life changed forever for Otto's friends, for his parents, his classmates. His service, his funeral was extraordinary, the outpouring of love.

His parents, Fred and Cindy, have taken their grief and done something very constructive with it. They have focused on exposing what North Korea is really like and also ensuring that, to the extent possible, North Korea is held accountable for this atrocity. No parent should have to endure what they went through.

I have worked with Senators BROWN, COONS, TILLIS, VAN HOLLEN, and HAGERTY, as well as the Warmbiers, as well as the Biden administration, on this legislation. It is called the Otto Warmbier North Korea Censorship and Surveillance Act. It would authorize sanctions against any foreign individuals involved in censoring the North Korean people's access to information on behalf of the Kim Jong Un regime.

Of course, the North Koreans aren't getting the truth because information is censored. So it is very important to get whatever real news you can into the country. When that happens, what you find out is that people leave North Korea and then work against the regime. But so many people don't have access to that information.

So this bill authorizes the U.S. Agency for Global Media to find new and creative ways to circumvent North Korean censorship and provides \$10 million annually for the next 5 years to counter North Korea's repressive censorship and surveillance state, including something very practical and needed, which is repairing the antennas that have been used for this purpose that were damaged in a typhoon years ago and have never been fixed because we haven't had the funding.

This bill has adequate funding to put in place the infrastructure that is now going to be necessary to effectively send true, accurate information to North Korea to counter North Korean propaganda for the sake of the people of North Korea.

Together, this Chamber can send a bipartisan message to the world that we will not stand for the censorship and the repression of the North Korean regime. So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. It is something we have worked on carefully. We have gotten technical assistance from the administration. It is something that I hope we can pass here this evening and then we can, in turn, get it passed in the House of Representatives and get it to the President for his signature.

So, Mr. President, I would now like to call up this legislation. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 159, S. 2129.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2129) to promote freedom of information and counter censorship and surveillance in North Korea, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations with an amend-

ment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Otto Warmbier Countering North Korean Censorship and Surveillance Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The information landscape in North Korea is the most repressive in the world, consistently ranking last or near-last in the annual World Press Freedom Index.

(2) Under the brutal rule of Kim Jong Un, the country's leader since 2012, the North Korean regime has tightened controls on access to information, as well as enacted harsh punishments for consumers of outside media, including sentencing to time in a concentration camp and a maximum penalty of death.

(3) Such repressive and unjust laws surrounding information in North Korea resulted in the death of 22-year-old United States citizen and university student Otto Warmbier, who had traveled to North Korea in December 2015 as part of a guided tour.

(4) Otto Warmbier was unjustly arrested, sentenced to 15 years of hard labor, and severely mistreated at the hands of North Korean officials. While in captivity, Otto Warmbier suffered a serious medical emergency that placed him into a comatose state. Otto Warmbier was comatose upon his release in June 2017 and died 6 days later.

(5) Despite increased penalties for possession and viewership of foreign media, the people of North Korea have increased their desire for foreign media content, according to a survey of 200 defectors concluding that 90 percent had watched South Korean or other foreign media before defecting.

(6) On March 23, 2021, in an annual resolution, the United Nations General Assembly condemned "the long-standing and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" and expressed grave concern at, among other things, "the denial of the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion . . . and of the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, and association, both online and offline, which is enforced through an absolute monopoly on information and total control over organized social life, and arbitrary and unlawful state surveillance that permeates the private lives of all citizens".

(7) In 2018, Typhoon Yutu caused extensive damage to 15 broadcast antennas used by the United States Agency for Global Media in Asia, resulting in reduced programming to North Korea. The United States Agency for Global Media has rebuilt 5 of the 15 antenna systems as of June 2021.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) in the event of a crisis situation, particularly where information pertaining to the crisis is being actively censored or a false narrative is being put forward, the United States should be able to quickly increase its broadcasting capability to deliver fact-based information to audiences, including those in North Korea; and

(2) the United States International Broadcasting Surge Capacity Fund is already authorized under section 316 of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6216), and expanded authority to transfer unobligated balances from expired accounts of the United States Agency for Global Media would enable the Agency to more nimbly respond to crises.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to provide the people of North Korea with access to a diverse range of fact-based information;